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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/038,760	01/04/2002	Anthony A. Sauve	96700/725	6299

1912 7590 07/23/2004

AMSTER, ROTHSTEIN & EBENSTEIN
90 PARK AVENUE
NEW YORK, NY 10016

EXAMINER

MCINTOSH III, TRAVISS C

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

1623

DATE MAILED: 07/23/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/038,760

Applicant(s)

SAUVE ET AL.

Examiner

Traviss C McIntosh

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 May 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 and 30-37 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 and 30-37 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on May 6, 2004 has been entered.

Election/Restrictions

In applicant's amendment filed May 6, 2004, applicants amended the originally elected group of "N-linked compounds" to those which do not require the nitrogen linkage, but can now be nitrogen containing groups linked via any moiety (i.e.; a N-linked heterocycle to a pyridyl group, which could be linked through a carbon atom). Thus, the previously set forth species election is hereby withdrawn, and the following restriction and species requirement is deemed necessary.

Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

- I. Claims 1 in part, 2-5, 10-11, 14-15, 18-19, and 30-37, drawn to the compound of claim 1 wherein A is a nicotinamide group, a pyridyl group, a substituted pyridyl group, or a pyrimidyl group, and compositions comprising the same, classified in class 514, subclass 42+.

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- II. Claims 1 in part, 6-7, 12, 16, and 20, drawn to O-linked phenyl, substituted phenyl, pyridyl, substituted pyridyl, or pyrimidyl groups, and compositions comprising the same, classified in class 514, subclass 25+.
- III. Claims 1 in part, 8-9, 13, 17, and 21, drawn to S-linked phenyl, substituted phenyl, pyridyl, substituted pyridyl, or pyrimidyl groups, and compositions comprising the same, classified in class 514, subclass 24.

The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:

Groups I-III are independent and distinct from each other as they are drawn to compounds which have divergent moieties in the A position. The compound of group I requires a nitrogen containing group, the compound of group II requires an oxygen containing group, and the compound of group III requires a sulfur containing group. Each of groups I-III are directed to compounds which are recognized in the art as being distinct from one another because of their diverse chemical structure, their different chemical properties, modes of action, different effects, and reactive conditions. It is noted that a reference disclosing a compound of one group would not necessarily disclose a compound of the other two groups. Additionally, the level of skill in the art is not such that one invention would be obvious over the other, i.e., they are patentable over each other. Chemical structures that are similar are presumed to function similarly, while chemical structures that are not similar are not presumed to function similarly. The presumption even for similar chemical structures though is not irrefutable, but may be overcome by scientific reasoning or evidence showing that the structure of the prior art would not have been expected to function as the structure of the claimed invention. Note that in accordance with the holding of

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Application of Papesch, 50 CCPA 1084, 315 F.2d 381, 137 USPQ 43 (CCPA 1963), and *In re Lulu*, 223 USPQ 1257 (Fed. Cir. 1984), chemical structures are patentably distinct where structures are either not structurally similar, or the prior art fails to suggest a function of a claimed compound would have been expected from a similar structure. As set forth supra, the structures of groups I-III are not structurally similar and thus, a search for one group would not be required for the other groups and a reference rendering one group obvious would not necessarily render the other groups obvious.

Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by their different classification, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

Claims 1-21 and 30-37 are generic to a plurality of disclosed patentably distinct species comprising a plethora of divergent compounds represented by the compound of claim 1. Applicant is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect a single disclosed species, even though this requirement is traversed. By a single species it is meant a single compound. The compound may be named in any of four ways: 1) according to IUPAC standard, 2) by a pictorial representation of the compound, 3) by setting forth the specific chemical group that each variable of the Markush group represents, or 4) by naming a claim or an example which itself sets forth a single compound.

Applicant is advised that a reply to this requirement must include an identification of the species that is elected consonant with this requirement, and a listing of all claims readable

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thereon, including any claims subsequently added. An argument that a claim is allowable or that all claims are generic is considered nonresponsive unless accompanied by an election.

Upon the allowance of a generic claim, applicant will be entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which are written in dependent form or otherwise include all the limitations of an allowed generic claim as provided by 37 CFR 1.141. If claims are added after the election, applicant must indicate which are readable upon the elected species. MPEP § 809.02(a).

Should applicant traverse on the ground that the species are not patentably distinct, applicant should submit evidence or identify such evidence now of record showing the species to be obvious variants or clearly admit on the record that this is the case. In either instance, if the examiner finds one of the inventions unpatentable over the prior art, the evidence or admission may be used in a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) of the other invention.

It is noted that the examiner will address all previously set forth rejections once a response to the current restriction requirement is set forth.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Traviss C McIntosh whose telephone number is 571-272-0657.

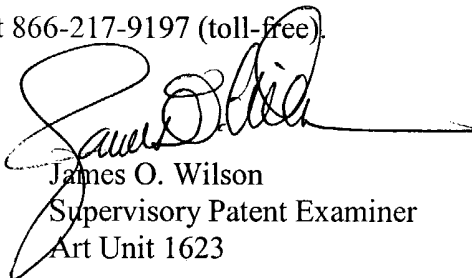
The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9:30-6:00.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James O. Wilson can be reached on 571-272-0661. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Traviss C. McIntosh III
July 14, 2004



James O. Wilson
Supervisory Patent Examiner
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